



## **Benjamin D. Foulois PTO | SY24-25**

### **General Body Meeting Minutes - October 29, 2024**

**The meeting was called to order at 6:03 by Christopher Randolph (PTO President)**

**Attendance: 32 participants**

- The meeting began with introductions, an overview of the agenda, and a disclaimer that the meeting was being recorded.

### **Old Business**

#### **A. Meeting Minutes**

- a. The secretary read the meeting minutes from the September 24, 2024, General Body Meeting, and the meeting minutes were approved.

### **New Business**

#### **B. Finance Committee**

##### **a. Treasurer shared the current financial report**

- i. \$20,686.82 (Total Account Balance), \$15,867.42 (Operating Budget), 3,484.55 (Principals Budget)
- ii. Does not include money from the Read-A-Thon fundraiser. Has not been posted yet.
- iii. Revenue: Membership (\$154)
- iv. Expenditures: Operating Expenses (\$30.15)
- v. Implemented a new reimbursement policy for teachers who need to request funds. This policy will allow for a more detailed account of reimbursement requests and payment distributions.
- vi. Created another bank account so that the principal's account is separate from the PTO operating account.
- vii.

#### **C. Membership Committee**

##### **a. The membership Chairperson shared the current Membership Committee report.**

- i. Winners of the membership drive: Primary: L. Johnson, Intermediate: Mannings, Middle School: Scott. Coordinating with homeroom teachers to schedule a day for the pizza party.
- ii. Membership Committee Meeting November 13 via Zoom
- iii. Request: All PTO members ensure dues are paid for this school year, and all PGCPs volunteer requirements are completed if you are interested in serving as a volunteer.

### **Questions**

- **How many members do we have currently? 68**

**D. Events Committee**

**a. The Events Committee Chairperson shared updates**

- i. Harvest Festival at the Maryland Corn maze will take place on Saturday, November 2
- ii. Family Bingo Night: Friday, December 6

**E. Delegate Committee**

**a. The Delegate Chairperson shared the current Delegate Committee report**

- i. Parent Leaders Quarterly Convening (10/14/2024)
  1. 11/4 – 11/8/24 Parent Engagement Assistant Week – encouraging schools and PTOs to honor and appreciate their assigned PEAs (specifically on 11/7).
  2. 11/9 Family Institute Conference – 8am – 2:30p – Oxon Hill High School – for Parent Leaders, School Leaders, and other interested Community Members on how to engage and support our schools
  3. 11/21 National Family Engagement Day – asking schools to celebrate families as being great partners
  4. Superintendent’s Presentation
    - a. District piloting no cell phone policy
    - b. Climate survey is forthcoming
    - c. Free virtual therapy through Hazel Health
- ii. Dr. Kenneth Harris’ 7th District PTO Committee Meeting held on 10/15/2024
  1. Reviewed the upcoming Communications Plan from the Superintendent
  2. Input was given by 7D PTO Leaders in order to provide feedback to revise the intended goals
- iii. Promote the Vote has launched. 42 submissions thus far...please submit your pictures!

**F. General Updates**

**a. Casey’s Trees and Men of BDF**

- i. Mr. Agnew shares details on the partnership with Casey Trees to plant 26 trees on the school campus. The PTO will discuss further ways to support establishing a watering plan to maintain the new trees and is seeking volunteers to help with this ongoing initiative.
- ii. PTO President, Mr. Randolph provides updates on the Men of BDF group's first event, which will offer free haircuts to the school community on November 25th. The PTO has also established social media accounts on TikTok, Instagram, and Facebook to better engage the broader school community.

## Questions

**Will the children who participate in planting trees receive community service hours?** Middle School students will receive Student Service Learning Hours.

### **G. Principal's Report and Questions from Members**

#### **a. Principal Hogue shares school information and updates**

- i. Principal Hogue has spoken to Dr. Harris to express parents' concerns regarding transportation and communication. Clarifies that the school has no control over transportation.
- ii. The playground is finished, and the students are really enjoying it.
- iii. Dr. Harris is asking for support from parents and students who want to volunteer on November 5 to help pass out flyers. This is not a BDF-sponsored event
- iv. \$25,000 raised from the Read-A-Thon. 58 students raised over \$200, and those students will have their first field trip paid for by the school.
- v. Discusses the implementation of the Yondr Cell Phone Pouches and the upcoming parent meetings that will take place on October 30, 2024. Implementation will be for grades 5-8
- vi. Principal Hogue shares concerns regarding parents texting and calling students during the school day, which interrupts instruction.
- vii. A sign-up sheet for grades K-5 chaperones has been sent out. The first five parents who have completed the PGCPs volunteer process will be taken.

## Questions

- **Who do we contact if my child's property is stolen?** Reach out to the grade-level administrator, and they can help you.